

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

In the Office Action of March 4, 2008, claims 83-85 and 91-93 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Satoh et al. (US 5,684,523); claims 86 and 94 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. in view of Ishihara (US 7,154,640); claims 87 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. in view of Yip (US 5,817,447); claims 88 and 96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. in view of Egan (US 5,969,747); claims 89 and 97 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. in view of Egan and further in view of Ishihara; and claims 90 and 98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. in view of Egan and further in view of Yip. These rejections are inapplicable to the amended claims for the reasons below, and their withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claims 83 and 91 set forth a light source for an image writing apparatus. The light emitting apparatus has light emitting elements arranged on a substrate in a main scanning direction. There are converting structures on the substrate corresponding to the light emitting elements (claim 83), or there is a converting structure on the substrate common to all the light emitting elements (claim 91). The advancing direction of light emitted from the light emitting elements in a direction perpendicular to the substrate is converted to a direction parallel to the substrate by the converting structures (claim 83) or by the converting structure (claim 91). The light emitting apparatus has light transmitting structure for transmitting light keeping the advancing direction of the light parallel to the substrate, the advancing direction of the light having been converted by the converting structures (claim 83) or the converting structure (claim 91) to a direction parallel to the substrate, to a photosensitive drum so as to form an image on the photosensitive drum. Thus, light is emitted perpendicular to the plane of the substrate, the direction is converted to parallel to the substrate by a converting structure, and the light is transmitted by a transmitting structure keeping the direction parallel to the substrate.

Satoh et al. does not disclose these features. For example, in Figure 22 light is emitted parallel to the substrate on which the light emitting devices are disposed, in contrast to the claim.

There is nothing in Figure 22 which could be construed as a converting structure disposed on the substrate. If the mirror [605] is taken to be a converting structure, then it does not convert the direction of light from perpendicular to the substrate to parallel to the substrate, as recited in the claim. Thus, claims 83 and 91 do not read on this embodiment.

In the embodiment of Figure 30, for example, if the mirror [805] is taken to be a converting structure, then it can be seen in the figure that any ray of light which is reflected from the mirror to eventually exit the aperture must angle downwards (the mirror being entirely above the aperture) and thus any such ray of light is necessarily not parallel to the substrate. If the light transmitting structure is taken to be the Roof Mirror Lens Array (RMLA) [806], then the light is not parallel to the substrate before or after passing through the light transmitting structure, and thus it cannot be said to be keeping the advancing direction of the light parallel to the substrate as required in the claims.

Thus, there is no disclosure in Satoh et al. of the present invention as recited in claims 83 and 91. Further, there is no disclosure in Satoh et al. or any of the prior art of record which would have caused a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Satoh et al. so as to result in or otherwise render obvious the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that claims 83 and 91, as well as claims 84-87 and 92-95 depending therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 88 and 96 also set forth a light source for an image writing apparatus. The light emitting apparatus has converting structures (claim 88) on a substrate or a converting structure on a substrate (claim 96). Light emitting elements on respective converting structures (claim 88), or light emitting elements on the converting structure (claim 96), are arranged in a main scanning direction of the substrate. The light emitting elements emit light to the converting structures (claim 88) or to the converting structure (claim 96). The advancing direction of light emitted from the light emitting elements in a direction perpendicular to the substrate is converted to a direction parallel to the substrate by the converting structures (claim 88) or by the converting structure (claim 96). The light emitting apparatus has light transmitting structure for transmitting light keeping the advancing direction of the light parallel to the substrate, the advancing direction of the light having been converted by the converting structures (claim 88), or by the converting structure (claim 96), to a direction parallel to the substrate, to a photosensitive drum so as to form an image on the photosensitive drum.

For the reason discussed above with respect to independent claims 83 and 91, claims 88 and 96, as well as claims 89, 90, 97, and 98 depending therefrom, are also clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels that there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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